

Serial #: 09/540,095

In reply to Office action mailed: October 9, 2003

Page 2 of 9

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims without prejudice, as follows and consider the subsequent remarks/arguments. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 20-39 (canceled).

40[39]. (Currently amended) A method for electronically communicating with a plurality of government agencies in a business-to-government system comprising:

- (a) registering a system user, wherein a system user profile is created and a unique identifier is generated and associated with the system user;
- (b) receiving identification information from the system user such that the identification information is verified and associated with the unique identifier of the system user;
- (c) providing to the system user secured access to a plurality of services upon verification of the identification information, wherein access to the plurality of services is limited based on the system user profile;
- (d) managing transaction information from the system user, wherein the transaction information is processed to conform with standards from at least one of the plurality of government agencies, [and, when necessary,]additional information is received from at least one of a previous government filing and the system user profile, and a report is prepared based on the transaction information and [any]additional information received;
- (e) filing the report, wherein a receiving government agency is determined from among the plurality of government agencies, and the report is transmitted to the receiving government agency through a business-to-government interface, the business-to-government interface connecting the system user to the plurality of government agencies through a single communication portal;
- (f) tracking user transactions, wherein the user transactions include filing the report, and wherein a history of user transactions is stored such that the user can access the history; and
- (g) performing billing functions based on the user transactions.

41[40]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the system user profile includes demographic data.

42[41]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein access to the plurality of services is limited based on a type of a business of the system user.

Serial #: 09/540,095

In reply to Office action mailed: October 9, 2003

Page 3 of 9

43[42]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of tracking user transactions includes monitoring user transactions via audit records to identify a government entity.

44[43]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of receiving identification information from the system user includes utilizing certificates to verify the identification information.

45[44]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of providing secured access includes utilizing encryption.

46[45]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the system user communicates with the plurality of government agencies by interacting with a user interface, the user interface being in communication with the business-to-government interface.

47[46]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 46[45] wherein the user interface is a graphical user interface.

48[47]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47[46] wherein the system user can customize the user interface.

49[48]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 46[45] wherein the user interface allows the system user to select the receiving government agency.

50[49]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 46[45] wherein the user interface displays state agency requirements associated with small businesses.

51[50]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 46[45] wherein the user interface provides a search engine for locating information required to address business problems.

52[51]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of tracking user transactions includes monitoring system parameters.

53[52]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52[51] further comprising the step of determining whether the system parameters conform to a design of the business-to-government system.

54[53]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of searching the user transactions for a pattern of abuse.

55[54]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of reconstructing events of the business-to-government system based on the user transactions upon detection of a security problem.

56[55]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of providing secured access further includes preventing unauthorized modification of data by the system user.

Serial #: 09/540,095

In reply to Office action mailed: October 9, 2003

Page 4 of 9

57[56]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of receiving an electronic payment from the system user.

58[57]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 57[56] further comprising the step of routing the electronic payment to the receiving government agency.

59[58]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the step of filing the report includes routing the report to the receiving government agency from among the plurality of government agencies.

60[59]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of sending a confirmation of receipt of the report by the receiving government agency to the system user.

61[60]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 60[59] wherein the step of sending the confirmation includes confirming compliance with standards of the receiving government agency.

62[61]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of employing forensic analytical tools for determining a source cause for poor behavior of the online system.

63[62]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the report includes tax information.

64[63]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] further comprising the step of determining a mode of communication based on the requirements of the receiving government agency and based on the transaction information.

65[64]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 64[63] wherein the transaction information includes at least one of unemployment insurance tax payments data, employee wages data, sales tax returns data, withholding tax returns data, business registrations data, and permits and licenses data.

66[65]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 64[63] wherein the transaction information includes at least one of notifications of unemployment claims, new hire filings, and worker's compensation filings.

67[66]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 64[63] wherein the transaction information includes filings required by at least one of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Agency.

68[67]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 64[63] wherein the mode of communication includes at least one of a format of the report and a data structure of the processed transaction information.

69[68]. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40[39] wherein the report is filed with more than one of the plurality of government agencies.

Serial #: 09/540,095

In reply to Office action mailed: October 9, 2003

Page 5 of 9

70. (New) A method for electronically communicating with a plurality of government agencies in a business-to-government system comprising:

- (a) communicating with the plurality of government agencies by interacting with a user interface, the user interface in communication with the business-to-government system;
- (b) registering a system user, wherein a system user profile is created and a unique identifier is generated and associated with the system user;
- (c) receiving identification information from the system user such that the identification information is verified, utilizing certificates, and associated with the unique identifier of the system user;
- (d) providing to the system user secured access, utilizing encryption, to a plurality of services upon verification of the identification information, wherein access to the plurality of services is limited based on the system user profile;
- (e) managing transaction information from the system user, wherein the transaction information is processed to conform with standards from at least one of the plurality of government agencies, additional information is received from at least one of a previous government filing and the system user profile, and a report is prepared based on the transaction information and additional information received;
- (f) filing the report, wherein a receiving government agency is determined from among the plurality of government agencies, and the report is transmitted to the receiving government agency through a business-to-government interface, the business-to-government interface connecting the system user to the plurality of government agencies through a single communication portal;
- (g) tracking user transactions, wherein the user transactions include filing the report, and wherein a history of user transactions is stored such that the user can access the history;
- (h) performing billing functions based on the user transactions; and
- (i) customizing the user interface to determine which government agencies with which to communicate.